

PUBLIC NOTICE

IMPOTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Tests Show Arsenic in Socorro Water System Water for Third Quarter 2010

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Quarterly samples for arsenic are taken for the Socorro Water System. The running annual average for arsenic samples taken from the sampling point denoted as the Springs Treatment Unit and the South Industrial Park Well during one quarter of 2009 and three quarters of 2010 exceeded the maximum contaminant level (MCL).

What should you do?

- **You do not need to use and alternative (e.g., bottled) water supply.** However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.

What does this mean?

This is not an immediate risk. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. However, some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

What is being done?

Arsenic levels in Socorro's Water Systems distributed water need to be below the designated 0.010 mg/L MCL. The Socorro Water System is currently under the Administrative Compliance Order and the water system is taking steps to decrease arsenic levels in the water it is distributing. The Arsenic Treatment Project using a coagulation/granular filtration process has been approved by NMED and USDA, the principal funding source. The project is scheduled to go out to bid in 60 days. This is necessary to minimize health risks to consumers of this water. Some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

For more information, please contact Dixie Daniels at (575) 838-1606 or ddaniels@socorronm.gov.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially this who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people with apartments, nursing homes, school, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

The Socorro Water System is sending this notice to you.

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